

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 04472 261850Z

12

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 INR-05 CIAE-00

NSC-05 NSCE-00 EB-03 NEA-06 /044 W

----- 116085

R 261640Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 287

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USEC BRUSSELS

USNATO 2594

S E C R E T ROME 4472

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, PO

SUBJECT: ITALIAN THINKING ON PORTUGUESE SITUATION

1. THE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY IS TRYING TO THINK THROUGH POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS IN PORTUGUESE SITUATION. AS WE HAVE REPORTED PREVIOUSLY THE ITALIANS CALLED IN THE PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR ON MARCH 21 TO EXPRESS ANXIETY OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL. THEY DECIDED NOT TO MAKE A DEMARCHE IN LISBON BECAUSE THEY LACK AN AMBASSADOR THERE AND THE CHARGE IS A JUNIOR OFFICER WHOM THE ITALIANS BELIEVE WOULD NOT HAVE ACCESS EVEN TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER. RUMOR WILL MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT ON PORTUGAL IN ANSWER TO PARLIAMENT'S QUESTIONS BUT AT THE MOMENT INTERNAL POLITICAL ACTIVITY (PARTY LEADERS AND MINISTERS DISCUSSING THE SENSITIVE LAW AND ORDER ISSUE) MAKE IT DOUBTFUL THAT THESE STATEMENTS WILL BE MADE BEFORE THE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ROME 04472 261850Z

EASTER RECESS.

2. POLITICAL DIRECTOR DUCCI TOLD CHARGE TODAY THAT HE IS THINKING IN TERMS OF A POSSIBLE EC-9 APPROACH TO PORTUGAL WHICH MIGHT STRESS ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND/OR ASSISTANCE ON THE THEORY THAT THE AFM LEADERS CAN BE ENCOURAGED TO A LESS EXTREME POLITICAL COURSE. DUCCI RECOGNIZES THAT BECAUSE OF THE PECULIAR DOMESTIC POLITICAL IMPACT ON ITALY OF THE PORTUGUESE ACTION IN BANNING THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR ITALY TO TAKE THE LEAD IN THIS EFFORT. HOWEVER, HE NOTED THAT THE EC-9 POLITICAL DIRECTORS WOULD MEET IN DUBLIN ON APRIL 8 AND AGAIN IN LUXEMBOURG ON APRIL 14. HE THOUGHT IT POSSIBLE THAT THE DIRECTORS MIGHT DISCUSS HOW THE EC-9 COULD REACT POSITIVELY TO THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL AT ONE OR BOTH OF THESE MEETINGS. DUCCI REMARKED THAT NEITHER HE NOR DAVIGNON WOULD BE AT THE APRIL 8 MEETING BUT HE EXPECTED THE FULL TEAM ON APRIL 14. COMMENT: IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO EXCHANGE IDEAS WITH SOME OF THE EC MEMBERS PRIOR TO THESE MEETINGS ASSUMING WE WISH TO ENCOURAGE THE EC IN THIS DIRECTION.

3. DUCCI SAID THAT THERE ARE SOME OFFICIALS WHO LOOK ON PORTUGUESE PROBLEM AS SIMPLY A SECURITY ISSUE TO BE DEALT WITH IN NATO. HOWEVER, HE BELIEVES WE SHOULD ACCEPT THE PORTUGUESE STATEMENT THAT THEY WISH TO REMAIN IN THE ALLIANCE AT FACE VALUE AND NOT BELABOR THE POINT. HE WOULD RATHER ENGAGE PORTUGUESE SELF-INTEREST IN COOPERATING CLOSELY WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEMBERS ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT ENVISAGE THIS AS AN EXCLUSIVE RELATIONSHIP. HE FORSEES THAT THE PORTUGUESE WOULD ALSO DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH THE ARAB COUNTRIES OR THE LDC'S.BEAUDRY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ROME04472
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750106-1173
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750313/aaaaalrp.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 APR 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <16 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ITALIAN THINKING ON PORTUGUESE SITUATION
TAGS: PFOR, IT, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006